

Message Text

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63

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 AID-05 SR-02 ORM-01 /081 W

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R 131420Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 205

INXT RUTAIJ/AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN 4247

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION GENEVA

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GENEVA FOR REFUGEE SECTION

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SREF, NG, ML

SUBJ: MALIAN TOUAREG REFUGEES IN NIGER

1. DURING MEETING WITH PRESIDENT KOUNTCHE MARCH 12 ON OTHER MATTERS HE VOLUNTEERED INFORMATION THAT MALIAN OFFICIALS HAVE BEEN RUNNING CONVOYS TO EVACUATE MALIAN TOUAREGS FROM LAZARET. SEVERAL THOUSANDS HAVE ALREADY DEPARTED AND KOUNTCHE EXPECTS OPERATION TO BE COMPLETED IN NEXT FEW WEEKS.

2. KOUNTCHE ALSO SAID THAT IN ORDER TO REDUCE CHANCES OF TOUAREGS DRIFTING BACK TO NIGER, MALIAN GOVERNMENT ASKED THAT GON REFUSE TO FEED RETURNEES. HOWEVER KOUNTCHE SAID GON COULD NOT TREAT FELLOW AFRICANS IN THIS MANNER. HE ADDED THAT MOVEMENT OF TOUARWEGS BACK TO NIGER IS ALREADY EVIDENT. ABOUT 500 HAVE WORKED THEIR WAY BACK AFTER THEIR EVACUATION TO MALI.

3. COMMENT: THIS PROBLEM WILL REMAIN AN ISSUE

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BETWEEN MALI AND NIGER FOR SOME TIME. MALIAN TOUAREGS

SEEM DETERMINED TO REMAIN NOMADIC.HECK

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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